

INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY Korea

CONFIDENTIAL

DATE DISTR. 1 DEC 49

SUBJECT Unrest in North Korea

NO. OF PAGES 1

PLACE 25X1

NO. OF ENCLS.
(LISTED BELOW)

ACQUIRED

DATE OF

25X1

SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

*filed
171*

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- 25X1 1. [] a group of young men in Wonsan (127-26, 39-10) conspired to assassinate Communist leaders and take over the local government, in conjunction with an expected invasion of North Korea by the South Korean army. The young intellectuals were dissatisfied because of the failure of the United Nations Commission to effect the unification of Korea, and the continued interference in North Korean affairs by Soviet political workers even after Soviet troops had ostensibly been withdrawn from the country.
2. In the latter part of February, while the group was still extending its contacts into other areas, the North Korean Democratic Youth League succeeded in penetrating the organization and denounced it to the local Bureau of Internal Affairs. An investigation was immediately begun and continued for several months. By the beginning of April, the Bureau had arrested more than thirty suspects, who were tortured until they revealed the entire plan for the uprising. More than 180 persons were finally arrested.*
3. One hundred thirty students of the middle school at Unggi (130-20, 42-20) in North Hamgyong Province were arrested as participants in a student strike called in protest against the abolition of English language courses and the substitution of Russian as the compulsory foreign language. After detailed questioning by the Internal Affairs Bureau, all the students were released except seventeen leaders, who were taken away to an unknown destination.

* [] Comment. It was reported by another American agency that in February 1949, students distributed handbills in Wonsan calling for overthrow of the North Korean government; in March 1949 pre-election rallies called by the Wonsan People's Committee were developed into anti-Communist demonstrations.

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Next Review Date: 2008

Document No. 5
NO CHANGE in Class. ☐
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Class. CHANGED TO: TS S C
DDA Memo: 4 Apr 77
Auth: DDA REG 77-1724
Date: 17 Nov 1978

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